

Antecedent basis for the word "aging" occurs at page 16 at line 16 and again at line 21. Antecedent basis for the conditions recited "at 63 oC at 100% relative humidity" is to be found in Table 1 on page 17 at the line reading "Izod (ft-lb/in) Aging Conditions: 63C/100% RH."

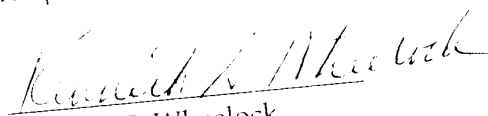
Art Based Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The examiner has rejected claims 2 - 7, 9 and 10 as unpatentable over any one of Gosens et al., Yang et al. and Busch et al. for "reasons of record."

The Examiner's statement that " the concentrations of each of the instant stipulated components is within each reference's ranges, it is immaterial whether ancillary to that particular benefit, it is obtained after aging at 63 C and 100 % relative humidity or not[.]" is respectfully traversed. As now amended, the claim recites the feature that 80% of the original Izod impact strength is retained after heat aging in a humid atmosphere at elevated temperature. This feature of Applicants' composition can not be determined by mere optimization because none of the references speak to the issue of heat aging in a humid atmosphere and therefore none of the references can render Applicants' unique and novel proportions obvious. While it may be within the scope of the art cited to optimize initial or fresh impact strength, there is nowhere taught or suggested in any of the art cited how to render such compositions resistant to a degradation of their impact properties upon challenge by heat and humidity. Relative to the claims as now amended, the Examiner's prior remarks simply miss the point of Applicants patentable contribution to the art. Accordingly withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Having amended the claims and rebutted the Examiner's argument of a *prima facie* case of obviousness, Applicants are now entitled to a notice of allowance. Accordingly a notice of allowance is solicited for claims 2 -7, 9 and 10, the claims currently pending.

Respectfully submitted:



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